over a range of radio frequencies;

selecting a television channel for view via a display screen and speakers connected with the broadcast data receiver by a user of the broadcast data receiver;

controlling a first tuner to tune to a particular frequency for a radio frequency data carrier to receive data for a user selected television channel to be viewed via the broadcast data receiver;

tuning at least one free tuner at that instant to receive data for another channel for viewing at that instant; and

basing channel identity on a prediction made by the control means for the broadcast data receiver.

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REMARKS

Attached is the clean version of the claims and new paragraphs as required in Section 1.121(4) (ii).

The application should now be in condition for examination, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted

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Dated: 29 November 2001

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New Header to be Inserted on Page 1, before line 1:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims priority to British Patent Application No. 0029464.5 filed 2 December 2000

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention to which this application relates is a Broadcast Data Receiver (BDR) of the type which is used to receive data, typically digital data, which is broadcast from a remote location. The data is typically transmitted from a broadcast location by a commercial broadcast organization, to a plurality of receiving locations, such as domestic premises in which a broadcast data receiver is located. The data can be transmitted via any of a number of methods such as, satellite transmission systems, cable transmission systems or terrestrial broadcast systems.

In this type of system the BDR receives the data in an encoded form which is designed to maximize the amount of data which can be carried in the data stream. At the BDR, the data is decoded and processed to allow the generation of audio, video and/or auxiliary information via a display screen such as that of a television set, which is connected to the BDR or the BDR is provided as an integral part of the television set.

Header to be Inserted into Page 2

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Replacement Paragraph to be Inserted into Page 2:

In a first aspect of the invention there is provided a broadcast data receiver (BDR) for receiving broadcast digital data, said receiver including a plurality of tuners, each controlled independently for selective tuning to receive one of a range of data RF carriers at known frequencies and characterized in that a first tuner is controlled to tune to a frequency to receive data for a user selected television channel in accordance with user requirements at that instant and, if a further tuner is free at that instant, it is tuned to receive data for a channel differing to that which is selected for viewing at that instant and said channel identity is based on a prediction made by the control means for the BDR.

FORM PCT/IB/304

Replacement Page to be Inserted into Page 5

Typically, the BDR monitors the user's real-time channel selection behavior and attempts to predict the users next action and set up the tuning resources appropriately to eliminate a delay in changing RF carriers. Thus, when the BDR usage pattern does not require all tuners to be locked to specific RF carrier frequencies, any spare tuning capability can be assigned to predictive tuning as a background activity.

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Replacement Paragraph to be Inserted into Page 6:

In a further aspect of the invention there is provided a method for controlling the tuning of a plurality of tuners provided in a broadcast data receiver for broadcast digital data, said receiver including a plurality of tuners for selective tuning independently to receive one of a range of RF data carriers which are transmitted from a broadcaster over a range of RF radio frequencies, said BDR allowing the selection by the user of a television channel for viewing via a display screen and speakers connected with the broadcast data receiver and characterized in that a first tuner is controlled to tune to a particular frequency for an RF data carrier to receive data for a user selected television channel to be viewed via the broadcast data receiver and, if a further tuner is free at that instant, said further tuner is tuned to receive data for a channel differing to that which is selected for viewing at that instant and said channel identity is based on a prediction made by the control means for the broadcast data receiver.

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Header to be Inserted into Page 6

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Header to be Inserted into Page 7

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

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Replacement Paragraphs to be Inserted into Page 8:

service 14 at this time, the BDR software determines from the user's channel list the next channel which would be selected by the "Channel Up" selection, in this case the next ascending channel 22 "SKY1". The data for the predicted channel is identified as being on an RF carrier of a different frequency to that of the currently viewed channel. According to the present invention and with the second BDR tuner 6 available to it, the BDR sets the second tuner 6 to tune to the new predicted RF carrier for the channel 22 in advance of the user pressing the "Channel Up" key. When the next user channel selection is made, if it is in accordance with the predicted channel, the control means switches from the data transport stream from tuner 4 to the data transport stream from tuner 6 with minimal delay as the "incoming" data transport stream for the predicted channel SKY1, 22 will already have stabilized as it is already being received on the tuner 6 so that all that is required is for the BDR to change between tuners from which the data stream is obtained and then generate the newly selected channel.

Events are defined for each user interaction that would potentially affect the tuning to incoming carriers. For example, the BDR data might include events, "the user has just changed downward a channel in the numerically ordered list of favorite channels" and "the user has just selected a specific channel by

New Paragraph for Page 10 to be Inserted After the Last Line:

While the invention has been described with a certain degree of particularly, it is manifest that many changes may be made in the details of construction and the arrangement of components without departing from the spirit and scope of this disclosure. It is understood that the invention is not limited to the embodiments set forth herein for purposes of exemplification, but is to be limited only by the scope of the attached claim or claims, including the full range of equivalency to which each element thereof is entitled.

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